

**REMARKS**

The foregoing amendment is believed to make explicit what was and is believed to be the only reasonable interpretation of the preceding version of claim 34. As previously explained, it is unambiguous in the prior art that antibody BC-1 does not bind directly to the ED-B domain. Thus, it cannot possibly meet the requirements of claim 34 which requires that an antibody must have this property, in view of its depending on claim 30. Nevertheless, there seems to be some confusion from the perhaps imprecise language in the prior version of claim 34 which could have (unreasonably) been interpreted as permitting the binding or cross-reacting of an antibody to one of the other type III homology repeats which do not include the ED-B domain.

In the interest of expediting prosecution, the new version of claim 34 is believed to unambiguously not permit the mentioned interpretation.

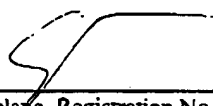
It is respectfully submitted that this amendment should be entered because it simply makes explicit what was an inherent requirement of claim 34 for the reasons stated above. Thus, it requires no further searching and introduces no new issues. Further, it materially reduces the issues on appeal since it appears to be the only remaining issue.

The Examiner is thanked for her attention and precision.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Name: JoAnn P. Hughes

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Date: May 9, 2003

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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

Claim 34 has been amended as follows:

34. (Amended) An antibody or antibody fragment according to claim 30, which binds to directly and only to the ED-B domain portion of recombinant FN containing type III homology repeats which include the ED-B domain.

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